

the world in which we live and an eagerness to learn more.

Tauxemont prepares children for formal schooling and ready to learn anything.

The secret behind Tauxemont's success for over 60 years is parent involvement. Parents participate in all aspects of the school, contributing to the success of children.

**HONORING RETIRING WESTERN
SPRINGS CHIEF OF POLICE PAMELA
CHURCH**

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Western Springs Chief of Police Pamela Church, who is retiring after 33 years of service in law enforcement.

Chief Church started out as physical education teacher in the Decatur School District. After seven years in education, she decided to switch careers and become a police officer in 1983. She started as a patrol officer for the Downers Grove Police Department where she developed an award-winning community oriented policing program. Chief Church spent more than 20 years serving and protecting the Downers Grove community and rose through the ranks to Deputy Chief.

In November 2005, Chief Church was hired as Chief of Police for the Western Springs Police Department. Upon becoming Chief, she became one of seven female police chiefs in the State of Illinois. Chief Church honorably protected the Western Springs community for over a decade.

In addition, Chief Church has been recognized by a variety of organizations for her exemplary efforts as Police Chief. In 2010, Church became the 50th president and first female president of the West Suburban Chiefs of Police Association, an honorable testament to her work outside of Western Springs and her dedication to law enforcement. She was also given the Illinois State Bar Association Law Enforcement Award in 2009, among countless other awards honoring her commitment to her community. Thanks to her work as Chief, she has made Western Springs a better and safer community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief of Police Pamela Church for all she has done in her years of service to her community and to congratulate her on her retirement. Her contributions have made an important impact in Western Springs and she will surely be missed.

HONORING SARA O'DONNELL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sara O'Donnell, founder and Executive Director of the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County, who is retiring after 21 years of service.

Sara O'Donnell grew up in rural central California, where she worked in the agricultural fields as a teenager and suffered the effects of exposure to pesticides. In 1990, after surviving a personal battle with breast cancer, Ms. O'Donnell set about establishing a resource to help individuals diagnosed with cancer. Five years later, in 1995, she and the founding board of directors opened the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County.

Over the following twenty years, the Cancer Resource Center has grown to serve more than 360 people annually. And, under Ms. O'Donnell's leadership, the Center has received grants and funding from the California Endowment, Avon Foundation, and hundreds of local community members.

Ms. O'Donnell's work has not only positively impacted the lives of countless individuals across Mendocino County, but she has shared her research and publications to provide assistance to underserved rural patients across the nation. Her volunteer service extends beyond the Cancer Resource Center. She is an advisory board member for Mendocino County Public Health and Mendocino County Health Insurance for All; she is on the board of directors for the Mendocino Coast Clinics; and she is an associate member of the Alliance for Rural Community Health.

Sara O'Donnell's legacy is one of dedicated service to rural health care and cancer prevention, and it is appropriate to express to her our deep appreciation for her long and exceptional career and her outstanding volunteer service, and to wish her well on her retirement.

**CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF MR. GREG FARMER**

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Mr. Greg Farmer, President and CEO of Colonial Farm Credit of Mechanicsville, Virginia.

Greg Farmer has been involved in agriculture for almost his entire life. From his education at the University of Maryland School of Agriculture to his first job in the poultry industry to his career at financial cooperative Farm Credit, he has worked tirelessly on behalf of farmers and their rural communities.

Mr. Farmer's lasting legacy and greatest impact has been his work at Colonial Farm Credit. He began his career as a loan officer in Farmville, Virginia working with poultry, tobacco, dairy, and cattle farmers during agriculture's difficult times in the 1980s. His efforts kept a lot of farmers in the field and working. These early experiences shaped his determination that the best way for Farm Credit to serve the community was to maintain strong credit standards in order to have the ability to be a steady resource for farmers in both good and bad times.

As Chief Credit Officer, he laid the groundwork to mold Colonial Farm Credit into the cooperative it is today. Respected and admired for his ability to understand credit policy and

apply it correctly, he set the standard by which loan officers make and underwrite loans today.

This straightforward approach served him well when he was chosen by the board of directors to be President and CEO in 2000. Since that time, the cooperative has grown in loan volume, become a standard in the industry for its excellent performance, and has become the lender of choice for farmers and foresters in eastern Virginia and southern Maryland.

In addition to leading a \$665 million lending institution employing 76 people, Greg has also found time to be an integral part of the community. He serves on both the board of Agriculture in the Classroom and as a consultant to the Colonial Agricultural Educational Foundation. He is a participant in many agricultural events and has been an active voice on Capitol Hill meeting Members of Congress as an advocate for the interests of the rural and agricultural communities.

Mr. Farmer is widely known as a man of great integrity, intelligence, and common sense and can be relied on to analyze problems and give a reasoned and researched response. He is also a great representative not only for Farm Credit, but for cooperatives and agriculture in general. He loves telling the cooperative story and also bragging about hard working farmers and their vital role in America.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Mr. Farmer on his distinguished career and I wish him all the best in this next chapter of life.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ARIZONA

HON. ANDY BIGGS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, this week, my home state of Arizona turned 105 years old. The Grand Canyon State is an incredible state in which to raise a family and earn a living.

There is so much to love about Arizona. We have over 300 days of sunshine; we enjoy the cool pines of Flagstaff and the rustic and historic towns of Prescott, Show Low, and Tombstone, which give perspective into Arizona's first days as a state; and we greatly benefit from the agriculture city Yuma.

Arizona's lakes, mountains, and skies provide countless activities throughout the year for natives and visitors alike. Arizona also enthusiastically hosts 15 Major League Baseball teams for Spring Training, Super Bowls, College Football playoff games, and the Waste Management Open, which many call the Greatest Show on Grass.

Most of all, I love the people of Arizona. Arizonans are diverse, patriotic, and fiercely independent. They bring so much talent and potential to our communities. I am deeply honored to serve my constituents in Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Sun Lakes, and Queen Creek.

After a long week in Washington, I cannot wait to step off the plane into the fresh, free air of Arizona. It is the greatest state in the union, and I will always be proud to call Arizona my home.

Happy Birthday, State 48.